

REMARKS:

- 1) Referring to item 10) of the Office Action Summary, please indicate acceptance of the drawings filed on April 13, 2006.
- 2) The Examiner's attention is directed to applicant's first Information Disclosure Statement of April 13, 2006. Please consider the references, and return an initialed, signed and dated acknowledgment copy of Form PTO-1449 of April 13, 2006.
- 3) The claims have been amended as follows. Claims 25 and 29 have been editorially amended. Claim 32 has been amended from independent form to dependent form, so that claim 32 now depends from claim 25 and is directed to a method of making the composite material according to claim 25. Claims 33, 35, 36 and 39 have been editorially amended for conformance with the amended claim 32. Claim 37 has been amended from being a method claim dependent from claim 33 to being a product claim depending from claim 25. New claims 40 to 44 have been added. The new claims are supported by the original disclosure as shown in the following table and thus do not introduce any new matter. Entry and consideration of the claim amendments and the new claims are respectfully requested.

New claims	40	41	42	43	44
Original support	cl 25; Figs. 1-8; pg 10 ln 4-11	Figs. 5 to 7; pg 10 ln 13-18	Fig. 8; pg 10 ln 15-20	Figs. 6, 8; pg 8 ln 18 - pg 9 ln 4; pg 9 ln 17-24	pg 6 ln 13

- 4) In response to the Restriction Requirement, applicant hereby elects the Group I product claims, originally including claims 25 to 31.
- 5) After the present amendment, claims 25 to 31, 37 and 40 to 44 are directed to and read on the elected product invention. Method claims 32 to 36, 38 and 39 are directed to the non-elected method invention and will presumably be withdrawn.
- 6) The non-elected method claims 32 to 36, 38 and 39, after the present amendment, now depend from elected claim 25 and are directed to a method-of-making the elected product of claim 25. Thus, claims 32 to 36, 38 and 39 are proper dependent method-of-making claims. If the elected product claims are ultimately found allowable, the Examiner is respectfully requested to rejoin, consider and allow the dependent method-of-making claims in accordance with MPEP 821.04 and 2116.01.
- 7) The Examiner's assertion that EP 0 909 826 discloses the features of present claim 25 is respectfully traversed. Nonetheless, at this stage, a detailed discussion of EP 0 909 826 is not necessary, because a substantive examination has not yet been carried out, no prior art rejection of any claim has been made, and the Office Action does not set forth a supporting basis for the assertion. Furthermore, the dependent claims recite additional features that further distinguish the invention over the prior art.

8) Favorable consideration and allowance of the application, including all present claims 25 to 44, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Applicant

WFF:he/4937  
Enclosures:  
Transmittal Cover Sheet

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CERTIFICATE OF FAX TRANSMISSION:

I hereby certify that this correspondence with all indicated enclosures is being transmitted by telefax to (571) 273-8300 on the date indicated below, and is addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

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